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BOOKS FOR BINDER
Executed with neatness and despatch.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LAZY JAKE.

OR THE DEVIL UNLUSSUED.

CHAPTER I.—INTERVIEW BETWEEN TWO GENTLE-
MEN.—A DIFFICULT PROPOSITION.—A HEROIC
INTRODUCTION.

A long, long while ago, in the good old days
when witches had legal existence, and old Nick,
by the willfulness of man's belief, was allowed
conversing with the human race, lived old Benjamin
Pensblossom. He had houses and lands, and
bonds and mortgages, and horses and cattle; and
moreover, certain old chests which, despite their
iron ribs, were near bursting with the gold and
silver—the joes and half-joes, the pistoles and the
pistareens, he had crammed into their capacious
mouths. Now, as the story goes, Benjamin had
not come as honestly and fairly by this money as he
might have done; but it was said, that once as the
clock struck twelve at night, in a damp vault in the
church-yard, and on the lid of a coffin, with blood
on its veins, and with a pen made of a dead
man's nail, Benjamin had given and granted, re-
luctant, enfeebled, conveyed, and confirmed, his
soul unto the devil, in consideration that he, the
devil, should prosper said Benjamin in
all his undertakings; with a proviso, nevertheless,
that if the said Benjamin at the day of forfeiture
could enjoin old Clootie a task that he could not
perform in a twelvemonth, then he, the said Ben-
jamin, should stand free and absolved.

Now, after this, Benjamin waxed richer and
cher, he became the most important man in the
village; he was appointed overseer of the poor, one
of the selectmen of the town; and at the time
when Old Nick called on him for payment, he
was actually an elder of the village church.

The manner of the visit was this. One cold win-
ter's evening, Benjamin was sitting alone by his
fire, the wind moaning around his house like the
cries of the widowed and fatherless after their
dower rights and patrimonies, and he thinking
about foreclosing a mortgage, when he heard a
gentle tap at the door, and a tall "Wetter-fied
sort of a man," "melancholy and gentleman-like,"
entered, and took a seat opposite to Pensblossom.

"Hi! already!" exclaimed Benjamin, stretch-
ing out his arm for a small pocket-bible which
lay on the table.

"I have been patient enough methinks," said
his visitor; "and although it be a naughty night
to swim in, as my friend Will has it, I hope the
honors of your company."

"I cannot go yet," said Benjamin, removing his
elbow a little ways. "Next week comes quarter
day, and then there is Deacon Gray's interest to
come in, and old Thompson's mortgage to be fore-
closed; indeed, my friend, it's quite inconvenient
to go just now."

"I fancy," replied the other, with a courteous
smile, "thou wilt find it inconvenient always; so
thou must even away to night."

"I cannot follow thee," said Benjamin, staring
wildly around and grasping for breath.

"But thou must, unless thou wilt give me a task
that I cannot perform, and that I fancy thou canst
scarcely do."

Benjamin's head sunk between his hands; to
puzzle old Scratch he thought was no easy mat-
ter. His visitor, who felt secure of his prey,
feisurly drew a cigar from his pocket, lighted it,
and commenced puffing. It emitted a bluish flame,
and indeed in itself much resembled, a half-grown
roll of brimstone. When the fume reached the
nostrils of Benjamin, he wrinkled uneasily in the
chair, and fell into a great perturbation of spirit,
belinking himself of devilled turkey legs, poached
eggs, roasted potatoes, and beef steaks and
gridirons. Meanwhile the mortgagee of Ben-
jamin's horse half his soul, sought to amuse him-
self with a book of two lying on the mantel.
He passed instinctively by "The Christian Sol-
dier," and "Holy Living and Dying," yawned
a moment over Shakespeare; but espying a news-
paper, the father of lies felt that he had reading
congenial to his taste.

At length Benjamin's face brightened, and he
exclaimed, "I have it, I have it! I defy thee to
make my neighbor, Lazy Jake, rich."

"Oh, oh!" quoth the devil; "fits the wind in
that quarter? vexing Job was a trifle to that; but

since thou hast set me the task, it would be un-
seemly in me to forfeit my prize without an en-
deavor to preserve it."

"Suppose we cancel the bond at once," said
Benjamin, "and I will give you an acquittance."
Old Harnie forgot his accustomed good breed-
ing at the proposition, and unquaffingly grinned.
"No," said he, "it is now a point of honor with
me and my friends, the lawyers, can help me at a
pinch. They have such an ingenious way of
transferring estates, that if I can get Jake admitted
to the bar, I shall have the pleasure of your com-
pany very soon."

After uttering this pleasantry, the head of the
legal profession looked cautiously round, fearing
that some of the fraternity had overheard him.

But the only addition to the company was Ben-
jamin's daughter Susan, a fine bouncing maiden of
fourteen, with a heart as free of guile as a New
York daryman's milk of cream.

"La, Pan," said Sukey, "I did n't know of your
having company."

The devil bowed—devils are always so polite—
Miss curseyed. The devil has such a taking way
with him.

"Well, friend Pensblossom," quoth he of the
fabulous tail, "this little affair will soon be settled,
and then —"

"La, Pan," interrupted Sukey, "what a smell
of brimstone!"

"And then," continued old Clootie to Ben-
jamin, "you must —"

Benjamin coughed very loudly, looked im-
ploringly at Satan, intimating that he would dispense
with the peroration.

"Pan has got such a bad cold," said Susan.

"Well, as extremes meet," replied Clootie, "he
will soon have a bad heat!"

Benjamin shivered; but the impracticability of
Lazy Jake again sent a glow through his breast.

"Would n't the gentlemen like a glass of sweet
cider?" inquired Susan, who was of an affable
and loquacious turn.

"If Miss Susan would only write her name in
his pocket-book as a sort of remembrance!"

"Away, tempter," shouted Benjamin.

"Such a pair of red cheeks, and two such spark-
ling eyes," continued the arch fiend, "might tempt
even Solomon. But, friend, I must away, as I
have business of much importance to attend to
before daylight. Let me see, let me see," said he
in an under tone, "the big piousified Justice
finder wants a good reason for an unjust deci-
sion; Miss Tabitha Spinkster must be taught the
last improvement upon the amorous waltz; the
grocer's doubt of the propriety of sending his
sugar must be settled; and then I have to strike
the moon into three or four youths, and make
poets of them; for when once they have coupled
love and dove, they are mine as sure as stupid
rhymes to Cupid—but I forget myself; good
night, friend Benjamin—parting is such sweet
sorrow—good night, Miss Susan, I hope we may
become better acquainted;" and so saying, he
bowed lowly; and ere Susan, who turned to see
why the candles burned so blue, was aware, the
old Serpent (I hate to call him names) had van-
ished, and Pensblossom guffly ordered her to
bed; where, I fear, she dreamed of the polite
gentleman, not being aware what a profligate
character he was, and how he had played the
very devil with the world ever since the first
weakness of woman, which, I believe, was the
year one.

CHAPTER II.—A MIDNIGHT FROWL THROUGH A
VILLAGE.

When the devil left the residence of Pensblos-
som, it was his intention to visit all his acquaint-
ances in the village, renew old friendships, make
new ones, and insinuate himself into the good
graces of his enemies, if he had any. He now
recollected that it was past the usual bed-time
of the villagers, and that he would find nobody
up, save those who stood in no need of his visita-
tion; and that, therefore, he must make his
presence known by his spirit and not by his as-
sumed form. As this thought floated across his
brain, he found himself in front of the parson-
age. Now, the good man having indulged some-
what in mulled beer and a Welch rarebit, was
naturally dreaming of a good living; and the
devil suggested to him, as he settled on his
breast in the slope of a huge Cheshire cheese,
that as there was a vacancy in the pulpit of the
next town which gave a higher salary, it was his
duty to go thither; and having thus given the
parson a call, Beelzebub whisked off to the par-
son's neighbor, the apothecary. The apothecary
presently dreamed that he and the sexton had
entered into a partnership, and that they employ-
ed the doctor as a clerk. Then the apothecary
imagined that he was filling his laudnum jar with
the juice of the poke-berry, but why he could

not tell, till the high price of opium rose up as an
excuse. "But prithee," cried one of the devil's
grand children, named Subterfuge, who was
present, "will not the poor souls sleep as well on
the juice as the extract?" "Aye, much better,"

quoth that slippery knave, Conscience; so the
apothecary turned him over, and slept soundly
until morning. The devil walked into the doc-
tor's as a messenger came from a poor person
in extremity, requesting his immediate presence.
The doctor hearing who it was that required his
aid, knew that he would never be paid for his
services, and so bade his servant tell the mes-
senger that he had been suddenly called out and
would not be back until morning. Hereupon
the doctor drew his bed clothes tighter around
him and sunk into a nap, wherein he dreamed
that he fell grievously sick, and his friends, in
great alarm, proposing to send for a brother
Aesculapius, it struck himas such ridiculous non-
sense that he burst into a laughter and awoke.

The devil next visited his friend the Justice; and
as the grocer's sugar was sanded the following
day, and Miss Tabitha practiced the Mazurka in
the evening at the village ball, it is presumed our
hero also paid them a passing visit. He inocu-
lated two young gentlemen with the love of rhyme,
and three young misses with flirtation. He pass-
ed by the window of a learned judge, and a sub-
tle metaphysical fluid which could not disprove
the existence of witches, passed into the judge's
perforation. Then the Devil thought he would
call on his special agent, the village attorney;
and he found him asleep with one eye open, and
he studied a long while for some new device to
inspire the lawyer withal; but after examining
the stock already on hand, the Devil found that
he had acquired a new wrinkle; so, well con-
tented, he left the house, and bent his steps to-
wards the dwelling of Lazy Jake.

CHAPTER III.—A REFLECTION—LAZY JAKE'S HOUSE:
—HIS BED-CHAMBER—A DISCOVERY, OR AN IN-
STANCE OF INDUCTIVE REASONING.

Had the task allotted to our hero been that of
overcoming any of the cardinal virtues, or of
combating the vice gluttony, lust, intemperance,
writing for magazines, avarice, pride, or even
dozing in church, he had not troubled himself
much about the result; but when he reflected on
the nature and influence of laziness, he felt ap-
palled by the *vis inertia* opposed to him. Of all
the sins which most easily beset a man, this is
the darling of their progenitor, for it makes his
way so insidiously and so easily, like a huge
unmanned gliding through a country, and tinct-
ing all things with its poisonous breath; and it
has such a tenacity of its conquests, that it is one
of the most powerful engines of evil ever de-
vised. Might I in a sober narrative like the present
allude with propriety to the profane history
of the Grecians, I would say that laziness, like
the apparently harmless peace-offering of the
Greeks to the Trojans, carries the armed vices
in its womb, who will soon spread havoc through
the town, and surprise the citadel.

Before commencing his operations, the old
Serpent thought it advisable to survey the resi-
dence of Jake, and observe whereabouts lay the
best avenue for his approach.

About half a mile from Pensblossom's, in the
outskirts of the village, Jake reposed on his patri-
monial remains. He had inherited many a broad
field and rich meadow; his house had been en-
compassed by luxuriant gardens and thrifty orch-
ards, flocks of cattle covered his pastures, the
loud neighing of steeds, the soft bleating of sheep,
the piteous lowing of cows, the complaisant
grunting of swine, filled the atmosphere around
him. Turkeys gobbled, hens cackled, ducks
quacked, and geese gabbled through his barn-
yards. He had money at interest, and a secret
hoard of Spanish dollars in his house. Never
had man a fairer chance for a life of prosperity.
But in vain; a blight had been on Jake from his
youth upwards. He was, in truth, one of the
laziest of mortals. No thought loved he beyond his
bed; and when he had rolled out of that, he
would swallow his breakfast, and then lighting
his pipe, sink into his arm-chair, and puff away
the live-long morning. His laborers, too, imbibed
the sweet poison; his seeds were never in the
ground until his neighbors were talking of reap-
ing—his winter grain was not sown until the
frosts had set in. Weeds choked up his gardens
—his uprooted trees spent their juices in
fruitful shoots—his fences gradually fell down—
his cattle were neglected—his horses died of the
distemper—his eggs turned addle in their un-
sought-for nests—his turkeys ran wild in the
woods—and the foxes and weasels stole into
his yards and carried off his geese and chickens.
The rains gradually rotted away the shingles on
his roof, and caused his walls to moulder. In a

few years his money was called in, and in a few
more spent; and still his disease was upon him.
To-morrow he would bestir himself, and to-mor-
row he would arouse; but what signified his do-
ing it to-day. But on the morrow he slept so
late that it was useless to make the effort; he
could do nothing in half a day, he would begin
with the next week. But perhaps the next week
was stormy, or Jake did not feel very well, or
his boots were without soles, "he must send them
to the cobbler's that very day." The cobbler
bent over his lap-stone all the week, but not on
Jake's account. And then the next week was
too late in the season, and why should a man
worry himself to death? he would reform with
the new year; but January is so cold. And thus
would Jake go on, rousing himself desperately
every half hour to fill his pipe, and eating his
dinners, and suppers, and breakfasts, and teas,
and luncheons, with an energy that astonished
himself, and sleeping with a resolution undis-
turbed by aught but indigestion and surfeit.

The grayness of morning was stealing over the
heavens, when our adventurer came in sight of
Lazy Jake's abode; and ere he had completed
his survey, the pale wintry sun was high advanced;
but still scarcely a sign of life about the premises.
A half-starved cow was turning "its sides and
shoulders and heavy head" on some scattered
straw near the barn, and endeavoring to obtain
"a little more sleep and a little more slumber."
A wretched horse was hanging his head out
of the weather boards of the stable, while a
skeleton pig was assisting his weak steps towards
the kitchen, by leaning against the straggling
paling on his path.

Every thing about the house appeared in a state
of dilapidation; the rains had washed the paint
from the boards and the pointing from between
the stones. The shutters had disappeared from
the windows, or hung by half an hinge, the glass
was broken, and a panel wanting in the door be-
trayed an uncarpeted and filthy floor. Within
doors things were in a grievous plight: bot-
tomless chairs and broken tables—the clock un-
wound—the locks all out of order—blue mould
on the walls, and grease and dirt on the floor.

There was a bedstead in the parlor, and kitchen
utensils in the bed-room, where, stewing and
steaming in his dirty blankets, lay Lazy Jake
himself.

Jake had eaten and slept until he had become a
mass of soft unwholesome fat; so that, wrapt up
as he was in the woollens, he might have been com-
pared to a roll of rancid butter enveloped in a vel-
low cabbage leaf. He was of an easy good-nat-
ured disposition, as pliant as the conscience of a
politician, or as the gum entente-cord, or what-
ever its unorthographic name may be. Jake
had a decided aversion to motion, and he never
indulged in an astronomical speculation, which
was, "why the devil the stars and planets keep
moving about as they did, seeing they have noth-
ing in the world to do." He used to wonder
why the

did not

"improve each shining hour,"

by a nap in the sun instead of keeping up such
an incessant coil and pothar.

But we have not leisure to detail all the say-
ings and doings of Jake, though a few pages
would suffice for the actions of his life. The
devil perambulated the room with a curious eye
and an incurious nostril; but he was unsatisfied
in one particular. He cautiously approached the
bed, raised the end of the clothes, and discovered
the fact to be as he had suspected,—that such a
lazy, uncleanly person as Jake slept in his stock-
ings.

CHAPTER IV.—A MORAL PHENOMENON, OR TEM-
TATIONS TO BECOMING RICH RESISTED—SINING
AND COUNTERMINING—GOLD—LOVE—LAND
SPECULATIONS AND STOCK JOBBING.

When the devil retired to ruminate on his
plans, he betook himself to the banks of a neigh-
boring mill-pond. In truth, when he reflected
on what he had just seen, he felt sorely perplexed
and, like an enamoured swain, cast many a des-
perate look at the water. But honor soon came
to his aid, and he roused himself up manfully to
his task. The result of his cogitations will be
portrayed in the following pages; and we must
leave this one of our heroes for the present to
return to the other.

Matters grew worse and worse with Lazy
Jake, for the plan of the first campaign appeared
to be to reduce Jake to such misery that he
should imbibed the idea of the necessity of ascer-
taining once commenced, the devil knows him.

Jake waited till evening, and sat the same re-
laxing. Jake's horse died of the colic, his cow
of the distemper, and his pig of the measles. The
supply of his table grew scantier, and his credi-
tors clamorous. Judgment after judgment was
entered up, and execution after execution lodged
in the sheriff's hands. His lands were still great-
er in value than the amount of his debts. He
could have made an agreement with his creditors
for a mortgage, the money to be applied to the
discharge of their claims; but Jake felt an un-
conquerable aversion to all exertion. True, he
needed but to ride to the attorney's and have it
arranged; but his horse was dead. He could
have walked there, but next week he would bor-
row a conveyance; and one week earlier or later
could make but little difference. At length his
creditors let the law take its way; and in the
spring Jake was master of nought but his home-
stead and the cartilage. He grew thinner and
thinner; for, after grim-visaged want has stared
up in the face for awhile, we become wonder-
fully assimilated to the spectre. At last a dimmer-
less day brought on the crisis, and poor Jake,
sinking into his arm-chair, cursed his unlucky
stars. "Nothing ever prospered with him; his
neighbors, who had started life with nothing, were
rich; while he who had every thing at command,
through his perverse luck, was reduced to pover-
ty. He could not see into it; it was very mys-
terious. But something must be done; he would
see what he could turn his hand to—in the morn-
ing."

So Jake lighted his pipe, and resigned himself
to the influence of that vacuity of thought in
which the smoker indulges, &c. miscalls reflection.
Presently he fell into a gentle nap, dreaming of
huge joints of roasted meat and savoury sauces,
placed before him in great profusion, but just be-
yond his reach. Then the winds disappeared,
and he had a vision of his grandfather, who told
him that in the orchard which had been sold to
his neighbor Pensblossom, "was buried a huge
jar of gold, which he had hidden there during an
Indian incursion, and afterwards left as safe de-
posit; but he had been called away by an apo-
plexy, his heirs had never been the wiser. Then
the old gentleman vanished, and when Jake a-
woke, the sun had again arisen, and was peeping
in at the window. The loud demand for break-
fast from his inner-man first recalled him to a
sense of his misery; then gradually his dream
arose to mind, indistinctly at first, but at last vivid
and impressive. "But of what use is it?" said
Jake: three months since, and it would have
saved me from my troubles; but now what can
I do. There is no use of trying to purchase it
back, I know Pensblossom will not sell. He got
it for a song, and all King David's psalms played
by the royal minstrel himself could not redeem
an inch of it. However, the next time I meet
him I will ask him about it; I am resolved to lose
nothing for want of exertion."

Now, as the devil would have it, Pensblossom
began to feel extremely uneasy. True, Jake was
not growing rich, but waxing poorer; still there
was something very suspicious in that very fact.
And it entered into Benjamin's maddie to con-
ceive, that as Jake still had the homestead left, it
might be a favorable time for future acquisition; so
he resolved to deprive Jake of this last resource
if possible.

"I have been thinking," said Benjamin, taking
Jake kindly by the hand, "that it was due to our
old friendship that I should lend you some aid in
your need. I had your orchard of you for a
trifle, and, although honestly purchased, still if
thou wilt thou mayst have it for a small advance."
"What?" cried Jake, "the orchard next the
garden?" "Yes, the same," replied Pensblossom,
"so give me a note at a short date for the amount,
and a mortgage on your house as security; for,
Jacob, I have a family to provide for, and al-
though I am of a generous disposition, still pru-
dence dictates a certain course. So, Jacob, go
down to Fifth's and execute a mortgage on the
house, and then shalt have the orchard."

Jake's eyes twinkled with joy, the pot of gold
was already in his grasp, and he actually went
to the lawyer's and signed the note, bond
and mortgage, and took his coat. So he sat
himself down, and devised a hundred ways of
spending his money, which, alas, was not yet his.
Early in the morning he taken to go out and
search for it, and he must rest after his hard work.
Jake awoke early, and felt an impulse to
commence his search; but what was the use of
hurry? he had a few dollars yet, which had been
unexpectedly paid him—two or three hundred
dollars—besides, besides, besides, besides, besides
for his work, as there would be nobody to watch
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in the sheriff's hands. His lands were still great-
er in value than the amount of his debts. He
could have made an agreement with his creditors
for a mortgage, the money to be applied to the
discharge of their claims; but Jake felt an un-
conquerable aversion to all exertion. True, he
needed but to ride to the attorney's and have it
arranged; but his horse was dead. He could
have walked there, but next week he would bor-
row a conveyance; and one week earlier or later
could make but little difference. At length his
creditors let the law take its way; and in the
spring Jake was master of nought but his home-
stead and the cartilage. He grew thinner and
thinner; for, after grim-visaged want has stared
up in the face for awhile, we become wonder-
fully assimilated to the spectre. At last a dimmer-
less day brought on the crisis, and poor Jake,
sinking into his arm-chair, cursed his unlucky
stars. "Nothing ever prospered with him; his
neighbors, who had started life with nothing, were
rich; while he who had every thing at command,
through his perverse luck, was reduced to pover-
ty. He could not see into it; it was very mys-
terious. But something must be done; he would
see what he could turn his hand to—in the morn-
ing."

So Jake lighted his pipe, and resigned himself
to the influence of that vacuity of thought in
which the smoker indulges, &c. miscalls reflection.
Presently he fell into a gentle nap, dreaming of
huge joints of roasted meat and savoury sauces,
placed before him in great profusion, but just be-
yond his reach. Then the winds disappeared,
and he had a vision of his grandfather, who told
him that in the orchard which had been sold to
his neighbor Pensblossom, "was buried a huge
jar of gold, which he had hidden there during an
Indian incursion, and afterwards left as safe de-
posit; but he had been called away by an apo-
plexy, his heirs had never been the wiser. Then
the old gentleman vanished, and when Jake a-
woke, the sun had again arisen, and was peeping
in at the window. The loud demand for break-
fast from his inner-man first recalled him to a
sense of his misery; then gradually his dream
arose to mind, indistinctly at first, but at last vivid
and impressive. "But of what use is it?" said
Jake: three months since, and it would have
saved me from my troubles; but now what can
I do. There is no use of trying to purchase it
back, I know Pensblossom will not sell. He got
it for a song, and all King David's psalms played
by the royal minstrel himself could not redeem
an inch of it. However, the next time I meet
him I will ask him about it; I am resolved to lose
nothing for want of exertion."

Now, as the devil would have it, Pensblossom
began to feel extremely uneasy. True, Jake was
not growing rich, but waxing poorer; still there
was something very suspicious in that very fact.
And it entered into Benjamin's maddie to con-
ceive, that as Jake still had the homestead left, it
might be a favorable time for future acquisition; so
he resolved to deprive Jake of this last resource
if possible.

"I have been thinking," said Benjamin, taking
Jake kindly by the hand, "that it was due to our
old friendship that I should lend you some aid in
your need. I had your orchard of you for a
trifle, and, although honestly purchased, still if
thou wilt thou mayst have it for a small advance."
"What?" cried Jake, "the orchard next the
garden?" "Yes, the same," replied Pensblossom,
"so give me a note at a short date for the amount,
and a mortgage on your house as security; for,
Jacob, I have a family to provide for, and al-
though I am of a generous disposition, still pru-
dence dictates a certain course. So, Jacob, go
down to Fifth's and execute a mortgage on the
house, and then shalt have the orchard."

Jake's eyes twinkled with joy, the pot of gold
was already in his grasp, and he actually went
to the lawyer's and signed the note, bond
and mortgage, and took his coat. So he sat
himself down, and devised a hundred ways of
spending his money, which, alas, was not yet his.
Early in the morning he taken to go out and
search for it, and he must rest after his hard work.
Jake awoke early, and felt an impulse to
commence his search; but what was the use of
hurry? he had a few dollars yet, which had been
unexpectedly paid him—two or three hundred
dollars—besides, besides, besides, besides, besides
for his work, as there would be nobody to watch
him.

Jake waited till evening, and sat the same re-
laxing. Jake's horse died of the colic, his cow
of the distemper, and his pig of the measles. The
supply of his table grew scantier, and his credi-
tors clamorous. Judgment after judgment was
entered up, and execution after execution lodged
in the sheriff's hands. His lands were still great-
er in value than the amount of his debts. He
could have made an agreement with his creditors
for a mortgage, the money to be applied to the
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row a conveyance; and one week earlier or later
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less day brought on the crisis, and poor Jake,
sinking into his arm-chair, cursed his unlucky
stars. "Nothing ever prospered with him; his
neighbors, who had started life with nothing, were
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through his perverse luck, was reduced to pover-
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and he had a vision of his grandfather, who told
him that in the orchard which had been sold to
his neighbor Pensblossom, "was buried a huge
jar of gold, which he had hidden there during an
Indian incursion, and afterwards left as safe de-
posit; but he had

it." Day passed after day in this manner, although, it must be confessed, Jake kept a vigilant eye to the orchard when awake, and dreamed of it by night. At last Jake began to dig, but the work went on slowly; and as the orchard contained a couple of acres, and Jake knew not where the treasure lay, his heart grew faint.—Week after week elapsed, and nothing could rouse Jake to vigorous action; his note became due; Peasblossom, in fulfillment of his plan, commenced suit, Jake could have delayed it by attending to it, but he was absolutely too lazy: judgment was entered, execution followed; the orchard was sold, and the house to satisfy the balance; the overplus was paid to Jake, and without a roof to call his own, he betook himself to the tavern, and gave way to deep melancholy, only relieved by eating, drinking and sleeping.—The shrewd fellow who had purchased the orchard suspected something from the state in which he found it, and rested not until he had upturned the whole soil, and satisfactorily solved his doubts.

Love was now called in by the devil to his aid. A fat widow, aged forty and upwards, of large person and income, cast amorous glances on Jake as he sat at the tavern window, from her room on the opposite side of the way. Jake was not iron or stone, and if he had been, the ardent glances of the widow would have heated him red-hot. As it was, Jake felt indescribable longings to move, aye, actually to walk; and one day, fired beyond control, he went over to the widow's.—Fortunately one or two visits so overcame the retiring modesty of the fair, that Jake was the happiest of men, save in the necessary trouble and fatigues he was put to in promenading with his lady fair. This did very well for a day or two; but then—shame on his manhood—Jake buried in an oblivious snooze after dinner, forgot love, honor, the widow and her money bags. Impudently did the fair one sigh, fume, scold, rave; and it was really thoughtless in Jake to allow such a miss of inflammable matter to become so heated. He might have known the consequences. A rousing box on his ear awoke him from his slumbers. Unhappy Jake! torrents of expletives rolled around him like lava from a volcano, heated epithets fell upon him; and, at last, like Hercules, he was completely buried under showers of invectives, red-hot, and reproaches at white heat. The game was up; Cupid and Somnus were at sword's points, and Cupid quit the field. Jake was now assailed in various ways. Land speculations were presented to his imagination; for such a rage possessed the good people of the village that they began buying up all the land within three miles of the town. What they bought one day in farms or plantations, they the next day offered at auction, nicely surveyed into building lots, and the prices were immense.—But Jake let all slip through his fingers. He had a keen foresight and a good judgment, but he was ever too lazy to move.

Then his brain teemed with improvements in various useful machines, by patenting which he could have made great sums but Jake never had resolution sufficient to draw up his specifications.

The Prince of Darkness strove manfully against the inertness of Jake; he assailed him in every way; pride, ambition, patriotism, and I know not what beside; but Jake was impracticable. The Devil became uneasy; his disappointment preyed on his spirits; he grew thin, pite, and interesting.

Never before had he been so puzzled. When he had set to work in earnest, he had always succeeded, except in one case; and his ill success in that case attributed to the malign influence of Mrs. Job. Eleven months of the allotted time had elapsed, and yet Jake was poorer than ever. The Devil began to despair, melancholy seized upon him, and he was evidently rapidly falling into a consumption. He actually indited some verses in the Byron vein—"I have not loved the world, nor the world me;" he went about like one distraught—he would have fallen into dyspepsia had it been then invented; but as it was, he never shaved himself without experiencing desperate thoughts. I know not how he could have existed through the last and still unsuccessful week of the term of probation; but musing one day on his apparently diminished power in the world, and the necessity of reviving it, he had the vision of a board of brokers, and the Devil laughed to think what a great idea it was. About a century afterwards he put his scheme in operation in New-York, and he has since had no fear for his dominion in the world; for he drew up his specifications in terms plain beyond dispute, and thus it stood, "buying and selling stock on time."

CHAPTER V.

Our narrative is drawing to a close. An author, even though his characters be fictitious, acquires acquaintance with them that he is loath to terminate. We, dealing in truth severe, cannot distribute poetical justice to our characters as the critic might demand. Poor Susan never could forget the polite gentleman who wanted her to write in his pocket-book. He became the god of her idolatry. She sighed for him, and sought for him every where. If a carriage passed the door, she expected to see him leaning from its window; if a

stranger arrived in town, she knew it must be him. At all the village gatherings she looked for him; and even at church, the poor ignorant creature fancied he might be present. Twice or thrice she detected him in the heroes of fashionable novels; but they merely fed her imagination. She once went to a camp-meeting and thought she saw him there; and he may have been.

But be this as it may, the year elapsed. Benjamin is again seated by his fire—he is wealthier and more hard-hearted than ever. His eye is on the clock—the fatal hour is past—a rap at the door, and Benjamin's old visitor enters; but alas, how changed! His cheek is hollow, his eye dim; he says nothing, he draws forth the contract; he throws it into the flames. But the parchment used by him is of course fire-proof; so Benjamin takes it out & the Devil honorably erases Peasblossom's name and tears off the seal.

"If I ever," said he solemnly, "undertake again to make a lazy man rich, may I be—sainted!" "Cheer up," said Benjamin, for men with whom all things prosper are great consolers; "cheer up, you have got much to be joyous for." "True," replied the Devil despondingly, "but I have been foiled; there is one vice I cannot manage, one failing too stubborn for me, and that is laziness."

Our story is finished. If there is a moral in it the reader can apply it. We have but to dispose of our dramatic personae, and lay aside our quill.—Lazy Jake died as he lived. Peasblossom lived long enough to become the Devil's without a formal agreement; the Devil recovered his cheerfulness, and Susan, surviving her first love, grew up to a womanhood, was married, and went the way of all flesh.

From the Eastern Argus.

MAINE AND GEORGIA.

Gov. Gilmer, of Georgia, has placed himself, it seems to us, grossly in the wrong, on the subject in dispute between these two States. Whether Maine has been right or wrong in her refusal to deliver up the persons claimed, he cannot be justified for a moment in recommending, as he has done in his recent message, a palpable violation of the Constitution of the United States.—With his views in relation to the controversy, the Governor might have been pardoned a reasonable quantity of indignation, in his communication to the Legislature, but to talk about *considering* all the citizens of another State who may happen to sail to Georgia, as going there for criminal purposes, is a little too absurd even to come from an excited Georgian. We imagine the Legislature of the State will hardly pretend to embody the Governor's views in the form of a law.

Gov. Gilmer asserts that the refusal of Georgia's claim grows out of the "opposition of the people of this State to the institution of slavery"—an opposition which, he says, is so great as to prevent their authorities from complying with the requirements of the Constitution. We are not aware that Maine has ever assigned any such reason for its course. On the contrary, we believe it has given reasons of an altogether different character. It is, therefore, gratuitous and insulting on the part of Gov. Gilmer to assume the position which he has here taken. It has not only never been occupied by this State, but it is one which she doubtless deems wholly untenable. However lightly the Executive of Georgia may think of the Federal Constitution, and however willingly he may be to recommend a violation of it, he may be assured that the people of Maine entertain for it too deep a veneration, to allow them to *debate* even the question of its infringement.

Our people are opposed to slavery, he says.—suppose they are; though we hardly know what particular evidence there is, even of that fact.—Certainly, there is no proof that their opposition to it is so violent as to override their constitutional duties. We have never heard of a man's being *mobbed* in the state, for *defending* slavery, while we have heard of riots being excited against those who were thought to be seeking its overthrow by improper means. It is altogether wrong to mix up this question with Abolition. It has nothing to do with it. It is purely a question of constitutional duty. If the Executive of Maine can be satisfied that, by the great compact of our Union, he is justly bound to surrender Philbrook and Kellerman, he will undoubtedly do so, without regard to consequences. And, it will make no difference to him, we venture to say, whether the exercise of his duty has a bearing, one way or the other, on the question of slavery. He must be first convinced, however, that the persons demanded by Georgia have been charged in that state with "treason, felony, or other crime," and have fled from justice to the protection of Maine. Until so convinced, no Governor will probably make a surrender, even though Georgia should be guilty of a thousand other menaces as foolish as the one to which we have referred.

It is sometimes said that men charged with the crime alleged against Philbrook and Kellerman would not have a fair trial in southern State.—We inadvertently copied, ourselves, a day or two ago, some expression about "the tender mercies of a Georgia Court." Such language we regard as altogether wrong. We have no right to suppose any thing against the judicial proceedings of a sister State. We are bound to presume, in the contrary, that its trials are properly conducted, and that none but the guilty are suffered to be

punished. And, besides, it is not true in fact, that nobody, accused of a crime connected with slavery, every escapes, when tried in a Slave State. It is not long since a Clergyman, of Ohio, was tried in Kentucky, for enticing away a slave from the latter state, and acquitted. He was acquitted, too, if our memory serves us, because the assistance which he had rendered the slave, was contributed within the State of Kentucky, and not because he had rendered him no aid at all.

We regard this subject as one of great importance, and shall endeavor to present our views concerning it, more fully in a future article.

MICHIGAN ELECTION.

From the great rejoicings of the "Whig" press, as well as from certain returns lying before us, we have some reason to believe that the "Whigs" have carried Michigan. We wish them joy of the acquisition, and are really not very sorry that the poor fellows have a small speck of hope left that their extermination, as a party, will not be consummated this year. We repeat, we are not sorry they have carried Michigan, inasmuch as we would leave them one small bone to gnaw upon, that they may retain some little strength for the great contest of 1840.

Michigan is the only state in the Union that has shown a gain to the "Whigs" of one single vote, for more than a year past. It is very natural that they should rally strong in Michigan against the Democracy, for the reason that the state is full of Red-dog, Wild-cats, Bogus, Owl-headed, Powwow, and other worthless trash, used there as currency, and the "Whigs" are anxious to preserve the charters of the "valuable institutions" that issued it. It is a most excellent state for "Whigs" to live in, as they can there wallow in shipplasters to their hearts' content; and, for this reason, as well as for the reason that the valley of Salt River—having received tremendous accessions for the year or two past from "Whig" immigration—is now full to overflowing we would advise the Whigs of Massachusetts to go there instead of going up "Salt River."

[New Era.]

From the Saco Democrat.

WASHINGTON A LOCOFOCO!

Don't be startled, good reader; we mean no irreverence to the sainted memory of the great man who has received from all civilized nations the meed superlative excellence as one of the noblest of humankind, when we call him by the name which we have attached thereto. Without offering father remark, we would direct the eye of the reader to the subjoined letter of Washington, with the explanatory remarks preceding it from the *Delaware Gazette*—

WASHINGTON ON PAPER CURRENCY. We publish the following letter from General Washington, addressed in February of 1787, to Thomas Stone, then a member of the Senate of Maryland. The opinion of Gen. Washington in this instance was called forth by the following circumstances. A bill had passed the House of Delegates of Maryland, proposing the issue of bills of credit by the state to the amount of \$350,000, to be loaned in various sums, redeemable in ten years, and drawing an interest of six per cent.—The Senate unanimously refused their assent to the bill. In the controversy which ensued the opinion of Gen. Washington was asked, who returned the answer subjoined. It may be found in Sparks's Life of Washington vol. ix. page 231.—The circumstances of that period were in many instances similar to those we are now passing through. The country was already flooded with paper issues and specie had been drawn almost entirely from circulation.

What remained unexported had been chiefly looked up, as stated in the letter, thro' the fears of those who had already suffered by the depreciation of the paper currency. So small was the proportion of specie to paper money, that whilst scarcely sufficient of the former could be procured for the wants of Government, the abundance of the latter had raised the prices of everything far beyond the actual values, thus opening the door for speculation by which the least designing, and perhaps most valuable part of the community were preyed upon by the more knowing and crafty speculators. Such is the language of the *Great Washington*. Such were his reasons of advising a curtailment of the paper circulation and placing the currency of the country on a more stable basis. Let every voter read this letter; let him read well its contents. The advice is as applicable to this country now as in 1787.

"Dear Sir—Your favor of the 30th ult. came duly to hand. To give an opinion in case of so much importance as that which has warmly agitated the two branches of your legislature, and which from the appeal that is made is likely to create great and perhaps dangerous division, is rather a delicate matter; but, as this diversity of opinion is on a subject, which has I believe, occupied the minds of most men, and as my sentiments thereof have been fully and decidedly expressed long before the Assembly either of Maryland or this State was convened, I do not scruple to declare, that if I had a voice in your legislature, it would have been given decidedly against a paper emission upon the general principles of its utility as a representative, and the necessity of it as a medium.

To assign a reason for this opinion would be unnecessary as tedious. The ground has been so often trod that a place hardly remains untouched. In a word, is the necessity arising from a want of specie represented as greater than it really is? I contend, that it is by the substance not with the shadow of the thing, we are to be benefited. The wisdom of man, in my humble opinion, cannot at this time devise a plan by which the credit of paper money would be long supported; consequently depreciation keeps pace with the quantity of the emission, and articles, for which it has exchanged, rise in a greater ra-

te than the sinking value of the money. Where in then is the farmer, the artisan, benefited? The debtor may be, because as I have observed, he gives the shadow in lieu of the substance; and in proportion to his gain, the creditor or the body politic suffers. Whether it be a legal tender or not, it will, as has been observed very truly leave no alternative. It must be that or nothing. An evil equally great is, the door it immediately opens for speculation, by which the least designing and perhaps most valuable part of the community are preyed upon by the more knowing and crafty speculators.

But contrary to my intention and declaration, I am offering reasons in support of my opinion; reasons, too, which of all others are less pleasing to the advocates of paper money. I shall therefore only observe generally, that so many people have suffered by former emissions, that, like a burnt child who dreads the fire, no person will touch it who can possibly avoid it. The natural consequence of which will be, that the specie, which remains unexported, will be instantly locked up. With great esteem and regard,

I am, dear Sir Yours,
Geo. Washington.

From the Augusta Age.

THE CURRENCY.

We have perhaps devoted more of our columns to this subject, than is acceptable to many of our readers. Other topics there are, and particularly the situation of the State Treasury, which deserve comment, but the recent fall of the U. S. Bank has given to the subject of circulating medium a peculiar prominence and interest. That the banking system needs some control is a fact about which all have been agreed, and the events to which we have referred, with the developments attending it, has satisfied most men, that such a control cannot safely be confided to a mammoth institution, but must be sought in an efficient reform of the system itself, and in its subjection to new and powerful restraints. As to the precise and detailed nature of this reform, the public mind is of course to a certain extent unsettled, and nothing will better secure the correctness of its final determination, than a free discussion and interchange of opinion.

In touching a subject so delicate in its nature as the currency, the American people will of course do nothing hastily, rashly or abruptly, but still great changes must take place, and with as much rapidity as the safety of the interests connected with the present state of things will admit of. Whether the system of incorporated banking will not give place to a freer system, or whether a new system may not be grafted upon the present one, are questions which the future will determine. At all events, the banking system in its present state, stands condemned by the people, and must cease at once and forever. While it is improbable that the country will at present establish an exclusive specie currency, it is altogether certain that it will no longer submit to an exclusive paper currency. Specie must be made the exclusive medium of at least the common transactions of life, while credit in some form or other may be permitted as the instrument of commercial exchanges. Paper must be excluded from the National Treasury. Frauds in the management of banks should be punishable as felonies—their stockholders must be made to some extent at least responsible for their debts, and their insolvency must be instantly arrested and punished by a bankrupt law, to be wielded by an authority capable or enforcing it. These and other reforms, upon the consideration of which the people may now enter, it is hoped, without the distracting influence of political bitterness, will secure to us that, which, next to a free government is the greatest blessing a country can possess, a sound, uniform and stable currency.

GEORGIA AND MAINE.

The message of Gov. Gilmer to the Legislature of that State, now in session, was communicated on the 5th inst. We make the following extract in relation to the course of our last Legislature upon the Philbrook and Kellerman case.

"I regret to inform you that that Legislature of the State of Maine has declined taking any measures to give satisfaction to this State, for the violation of its constitutional rights, by the refusal of Governor Dunlap and Governor Kent, to deliver up to its authorities upon their demand the fugitives from its justice, Philbrook and Kellerman. You will perceive from the proceedings of the Legislature of Maine, at its last session, that upon reference to it of all the documents in relation to Philbrook and Kellerman, it contented itself by resolving that the whole of that subject was exclusively within the province of the Executive Department, and that it was inexpedient for the Legislature to take any order in relation thereto, notwithstanding that the Legislature had passed a law at its previous session, defining the power of the Executive Department in arresting and delivering up fugitives from justice, from other States, and evidently with the view of justifying Governor Dunlap in his previous refusal to deliver up Philbrook and Kellerman to the authorities of this State.

This conduct of the Legislature of Maine and the previous conduct of Governor Dunlap and Governor Kent, prove conclusively that the opposition to the institution of slavery is so great among the people of that State, that their public authorities are prevented from obeying the injunctions of the Constitution of the United States,

which required to deliver up fugitives from justice, charged with the crime of violating the rights of property in slaves. This State must, therefore protect, by its own authority, the rights of its citizens in slave property against the disposition of the people of Maine to violate them. For this purpose you will be justified in declaring by law, that all citizens of Maine who may come within the jurisdiction of this State, on board of any vessel as owners, officers, or mariners, shall be considered as doing so with the intent to commit the crime of seducing negro slaves from their owners, and be dealt with accordingly by the officers of justice.

I have not called a Convention of the people of the State to take into consideration the course they ought to pursue in maintaining their rights in consequence of the refusal of Maine to do them justice, as directed by the rescissions of the Legislature passed at its session of 1837, for the reason that the Legislature failed to provide for the expenses of such a Convention, and because a Convention for another object had already been called by the Legislature and its proceedings submitted to the people for ratification.

Your attention is called to a law which has been passed by the Legislature of the State of New York, to authorize the arrest and detention of fugitives from justice from other States, and the Territories of the United States, a copy of which the Legislature of New York has caused to be transmitted to the Governors of each of the States, in order that similar laws may be passed by all the States. The copy received at this Department accompanies this message. I also lay before you copies of very interesting proceedings of the Legislature of the State of South Carolina and the State of New Jersey, in relation to the controversy between this State and the State of Maine.

MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.—The members are beginning to wend their way towards the seat of Government. We hope every Democrat will be at his post on the first day of the session. The contest for Speaker will be very close, and a single vote may turn the scale. Under such circumstances, we would not like to be that Representative who was negligently absent. Col. Bell, of Tennessee, we suppose is to be the Whig candidate for the chair, although the N. Y. Commercial intimates a preference for Mr. Dawson of Georgia. The Democratic candidate is not yet fixed upon.

THE DIFFERENCE.—The other morning a well dressed whig came along where a democrat was at work, and said to him.

"Just like a loco loco, to do such work when you are able to hire it done."

"Yes," said the Democrat. "It is by labor that I have got together my little property, and by that means I hope to keep it."

The Whig then walked on. If he had the work to do he would have employed a hand, & when the bill was presented very likely would have refused payment because the government deranged the currency!

Such is the difference between a '34 whig and a democrat. [Poughkeepsie Telegraph.]

The editor of the Springfield, (Mass.) Gazette, a federal paper, thus good humoredly notices the late election for governor, &c. in Massachusetts: "We hope our readers will excuse the lack of news or editorial matter in our paper this week. The fact is we got rowed so far up Salt River, on Monday, by the Loco Foco party, that we have not been able to get back to attend to our paper." The same paper contains the following:

FOR SALT RIVER. The splendid steamer "Massachusetts" will leave for Salt River, this morning. All the whigs of the Old By State who wish to take passage are required to be on board as early as possible, as there is a prospect of a full freight. Passage free, and every accommodation that the nature of the case will allow. All hands aboard!"

A SLIGHT MISTAKE.—The feds of Medfield made a slight mistake on election-day, which made them feel rather blue. Missing from the polls a Mr. S—, an aged gentleman, who had always voted with them, they despatched a vehicle to bring him there. When he arrived there, they proffered him the whig ticket, but the old gentleman making them a low bow, and thanking them for the ride which they had given him, drew from his pocket a Democratic ticket, which he deposited in the ballot box.—*Boston Post.*

MISSISSIPPI ELECTION. Partial returns have been received from Mississippi. As far as heard from, there seems to be a great scarcity of federal votes. The returns from Jackson county, give for Governor, McNutt, dem. 215, Turner, fed. one! For Congress, Brown, dem. 271, Thompson, dem. 197. Wiggins, fed. one! At the last election April 1833, this county gave for the federal candidates an average of 61.2, and the democratic candidates 40.

Adams county, of which Natchez is the Capital, is of the same complexion as the above. The Natchez Free Trader thinks a democratic Senator and three federal representatives are chosen. At the last election this county gave a federal majority of nearly 400.

The Free Trader says: "If the vote in Adams is a faithful index of the change of public opinion throughout the whole State, the democratic party have again carried the day and by a greatly increased majority."

"I'm going for good," as the missionary said when he sailed for the Sandwich Islands.

PARIS.

Chartered Rights.

bargain away his rights. The Legislature of the people. I have a charter of excise or company, they power to bestow. ing—it is good for natural and constitutionality of privileges to therefore, has the ter to any other in relation to this privilege might an individual to any property belong to any legal company to claim privileges, because legislative action, which had right to do. The charter which any exclusive contrary to natural and the parchment better than a count asked, may you not great deal of injustice in chartering privilege inconvenience by not rightly their people who are the injustice done the held sacred for constitutional or law it is good for ed such a charter the community at

The Federal Ed. alio opinion of the are serious in aseracy in that State some eight or ten "Whigs" must be at the shrine of the itors are guilty of sense of the reflect

The Beautif of dle and Western and fifty cents per for seven dollars Banks. Fifty cent pretty severe tax acts of the "Rag B promises and pay expect every two of Banking is and

Retelling—T its Post Notes, its Bank Notes—

"Our side"—P rogues may be h recent, candidates is one side in pol —"our side."

The Boston P the Boston Atlas, few days since, split a wafer to bl

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OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, NOVEMBER 26, 1839.

Chartered Rights.—As no individual has the right to bargain away his neighbors property, neither has the Legislature the power of bargaining away the rights of the people. If a certain legislative body have granted a charter of exclusive privileges to any individual or company, they have granted what is not in their power to bestow. Hence such a charter is not binding—it is good for nothing—being made contrary to natural and constitutional law, which secures an equality of privileges to all. Any succeeding legislature, therefore, has the right and authority to grant a charter to any other individual or company, in direct violation to this previous unconstitutional charter. As well might an individual pretend that he had just claim to any property because he had purchased it according to any legal form of any neighbor, as for a certain company to claim just possession of certain exclusive privileges, because they were granted to them by legislative action, when neither of them making the grant had any right to do it.

The charter which grants to an individual or company any exclusive privileges, is unconstitutional—contrary to natural law, and therefore null and void—and the parchment upon which it is inscribed is no better than a counterfeit Bank note. But it may be asked, may you not, according to this principle, do a great deal of injustice to those who have received certain chartered privileges. It may occasion them some inconvenience by taking away from them what was not rightly their property, and distributing among the people who are the rightful owners—but there is no injustice done thereby. Every contract ought to be held sacred for ever if based on just principles—upon constitutional or natural law, but if it violates natural law it is good for nothing; and they who have received such a charter must be the sufferers, rather than the community at whose expense it was granted.

The Federal Editors in this State must have an exalted opinion of their brethren in Massachusetts if they are serious in ascribing the recent triumph of Democracy in that State to the influence of Rum. Either some eight or ten thousand decided and unwavering "Whigs" must have been most devoted worshippers at the shrine of the "Striped Pig," or the Federal Editors are guilty of a base libel on the returning good sense of the reflecting yeomanry of the old "Bay State."

The Beauties of Suspensions.—In some of the Middle and Western States flour is selling for six dollars and fifty cents per barrel, cash, or current bills, and for seven dollars per barrel in bills of the suspended Banks. Fifty cents on a barrel of flour is certainly a pretty severe tax for a poor man to pay into the pockets of the "Rag Barons," to enable them to keep their promises and pay up; but it is one which they may expect every two or three years if the present system of Banking is suffered to exist.

Redemption.—The U. S. Bank proposes redeeming its Post Notes, payable in three or four months, with its Bank Notes—not payable at all.

"Our side."—Politicians may be dishonest, demagogues may be hypocritical, newspapers may misrepresent, candidates may humbug the people, but there is one side in politics that is always right, and that is—"our side."

The Boston Post says that the Assistant Editor of the Boston Atlas, was weighed in a pair of scales a few days since, and the man who tended the beam split a wafer to balance him.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The Boston Post says:—Allowing for scattering votes, (and the utmost industry of all parties can detect but 255,) Morton is then elected by about 260 majority. We feel entire confidence in saying to our friends at home and abroad, that Marcus Morton has a clear majority of all the votes cast for governor, and the Democracy mean they shall all be counted.

A LIE NAILED DOWN.

The federalists have stated that Kinderhook, Mr. Van Buren's birth-place, was this year carried by their party by fifty majority. The fact, however, is directly the reverse; the town having been carried by the democracy by a gain since last fall, when there was a severely contested election for supervisor, of fifty-four votes. We thus contradict one of those little lies of the opposition, which influence no small number of foolish people.—*Locke's New Era.*

The editor of the Barnstable Patriot says that a friend from East Sandwich has handed him a handsome ear of corn, which was raised from seed sixty-four years old.

The farmer who is ashamed of his flock, or the Mechanic of his apron, is himself ashamed of his profession.

A dwelling house owned and occupied by Mr. Wm. Robinson in Gardiner village was destroyed by fire on Tuesday forenoon of last week, together with most of the furniture.

A tannery establishment in Augusta, on the Kennedy brook, belonging to Mr. W. Stackpole, was consumed by fire on Monday night of last week. Two buildings and the entire stock, valued at about \$3,000, were destroyed. No insurance.

Old price again.—The Philadelphia Spirit of the Times states that a miller near Dayton, Ohio, has contracted to deliver 1000 bbls of flour, at \$3.62 cts each. All kinds of provisions are coming down. When banks cannot lend their shillings to speculators, the necessities of life will sell for precisely what they are worth and no more; because every one who possesses cash can compete for the articles in market.

NINETY FEET OF CHILDREN.—A man in Coventry, N. H. has fifteen children, whose aggregate length is upwards of ninety feet!

IN LUCK FOR ONCE.—Some three or four years ago a gentleman of Detroit bought a turkey, for which he paid fifty cents and forthwith sent it, together with a note, to Mr. Brooks, auctioneer of the Episcopal ladies fair, which society had met that evening at Ben Woodworth's hotel, for the purpose of selling off the little trinkets of their own manufacture, and raising the fund for some useful purpose. The turkey was immediately put up at auction, and the bidders of the Exchange and Mansion House ran it up to one hundred dollars, at which price it was struck off. At that time, our attention was attracted by a little old man, with a round top hat, and rather singular features, who stood there with his mouth wide open, gazing at the auctioneer with an eager and enquiring look, evidently anxious to find out what such estates were worth in that market. Our hero had arrived that evening from Ohio with a load of hogs, and was a trying to find a purchaser for them at "a fair price." When Mr. Brooks struck off the turkey at one hundred dollars, the little old man jumped up and down, so tickled that he scarcely contain himself. "I've hit it this time," says he, (addressing his companion) "let's go and have a horn. 'If turkeys is worth a hundred dollars in this market, I wonder what hogs is worth?'"

SERVED HIM RIGHT.—A young girl 13 or 14 years old, who carries out bonnets from a Millinery establishment in Tremont Row, had often been followed and insulted by a scoundrel in the shape of a man; and from the frequent repetition of these insults, she became afraid to go out alone after dark. A young man, the other night, agreed to follow on behind her, in order to detect the scoundrel. Soon after he left her—thinking her far enough to be safe—the same man came up to her and repeated his insult. Previous to setting out, she had been provided with a paper of No. 1 Red pepper; and on reaching her mother's door—the man following her all the while—she turned and threw the contents of the paper in his face. The scamp was so blinded, that he tumbled down the steps and snatched off, muttering something very much like profanity. It was a wholesome and well deserved chastisement.—*Boston Times.*

SAN ACCIDENT.—Mr. George Emerson of Danville, at work on the new North Turner Bridge over the Androscoggin, fell from the top of the Bridge a distance of 29 feet on to a ledge. He struck on his shoulders, which caused an immediate paralysis spine, destroying all sensibility below the neck, except a slight feeling in each hand and arm. He has lain seventeen days in this condition, and no hopes are entertained of his recovery.

The Bridge has now been completed and covered and is now passable. It stands upon the site of the one swept off by the great freshet in January last.—*Augusta Journal.*

The Liverpool has brought a very valuable cargo, including in it sixty cases of figured silks of very rich fabric, and of the value of ten thousand pounds each.—*New York Express.*

Six Hundred Thousand Pounds for figured silks, or Two million eight hundred Thousand Dollars! Who is to pay? Who can wonder at the constantly occurring bankruptcies of individuals, and the suspension of payment by the banks, in a nation that tolerates such unheard of extravagance? What disgrace to the people of this country; to be laid under tribute to a foreign nation for an article of superfluity in dress—a people too, who if they would, might clothe and feed themselves and half of the world beside, from the products of their labor and the physical resources of their country.—*Boston Courier.*

TOAD EXTENDED IN A ROCK.—The Sackett's Harbour Journal gives an account of another wonderful instance of a live toad being found embedded in a rock. In quarrying limestone for the new pier, at that place, the workmen discovered a live toad embedded in the rock, at least five feet from the surface of the rock. He was somewhat flattened, but soon straightened up; and hopped off. His bed in the rock, where he had napped so long, has been seen by the villagers and there is no doubt but that he squatted there before the five feet of lime rock over him was formed.

From the Temperance Gazette.

FIRE AND AWFUL CALAMITY IN VASSALBORO'.

We learn that on Tuesday morning last, the house of Mr. James Sturgis of Vassalboro', which has been for many years occupied as a tavern, was consumed by fire, and that Mr. Sturgis lost his life. We understand that when suspicions were first entertained that the house was on fire, Mr. Sturgis and his brother went into a chamber where there had been a fire the evening previous, and removed a board from above the fire place. The air within had become intensely heated, and with the smoke instantly filled the room. The brother of Mr. Sturgis made his escape and gave the alarm, and a considerable period had elapsed before it was discovered that Mr. Sturgis, the owner, was missing. Some one entered the room at the risk of his life, and found him lying on the floor, and succeeded in getting him into the air; but life was nearly extinct, and he died immediately. We also learn that Mr. James Sturgis, Jr. was seriously injured by some article of furniture thrown from the house, but it is hoped not dangerously.

Movement extraordinary.—There is a man living at Huron, Ohio, who has twenty four children by one wife, all hale and healthy, eighteen of whom are males, capable of bearing arms.—"In peace prepare for war," is a good maxim.

The Baltimore Chronicle of Monday contains this little but meaning paragraph:—

"We regret to learn that three gentlemen of this city, occupying respectable positions in society, were arrested and held to bail on Saturday upon a charge of being concerned in fitting out vessels designed to be employed in the slave trade."

PANTHERS AT THE WEST.—Wild animals seem to be abundant near Piqua, Ohio, and to have a disposition to cultivate an acquaintance with the inhabitants of that place. A young man, who was returning to town recently, on horseback, heard the scream of a panther, and on looking up into a tree, saw one of those animals ready to pounce upon him. His horse instinctively sprang forward, and the panther struck the ground several feet behind him, and followed the horse and rider upwards of a mile before he relinquished the chase.

"One Presidential term," is one of the objects which the whigs proclaim, in their anxiety to court the people. There is a double meaning in this sort of one term of office it is true—but it is a term to last during life.—*Lancaster N. H. Democrat.*

The Albany Argus announces the death of Hon. Theodore Sedgwick, of Stockbridge, Mass., one of New England's ablest sons. He died suddenly of Apoplexy, at Pittsfield, between two and three o'clock in the morning of the 7th inst.

COMMON SCHOOLS IN MAINE.

In conformity with a Resolve of the last Legislature, the Secretary of State has prepared an interesting Abstract of intelligence concerning the Public Schools in Maine. Some towns have made, we notice, very imperfect returns, and some have made none at all. There have been fewer delinquencies, however, this year than there were last year.—We gather from the Abstract the following facts.

The whole number of School Districts returned is 2578. The average number of weeks each school is kept by a master is 7 1/7, by a mistress, 9 5/7. The average pay of a Master is \$20 36—of a Mistress, \$8 51. The number of scholars attending school in 1838, is as follows: to a master, 84,511; to a mistress, 72,128; total 156,639. The number of scholars in the State between the ages of 4 and 21, according to the census of 1837, is 198,173; leaving thus, 41,534 scholars between those ages who do not attend the public schools. Of these, however, perhaps one fifth are in attendance upon Academies and private schools, and these should be deducted from the above aggregate. The number out of school, then, between the ages of 4 and 21 will be reduced to 33,228. This is a smaller number than there are out of school in several other States, but it is nevertheless quite too large.

The total amount raised and expended for public education, as shown by the school returns for 1838, is \$254,416 40. Of this sum \$180,593 66, arises from taxes on polls and estates, \$46,830 86, from the Annual School Fund or Bank Tax, and \$4,527 87, from subscriptions. *Eastern Argus.*

RUINS IN CENTRAL AMERICA.—The remains of the city of Palenque, in Guatemala, give indications that the population in the days of its greatness could not have been less than two millions. The ruins extend for the distance of about twenty miles, and consist of bridges, aqueducts, palaces, temples, &c, all of stone. What is singular, these wonderful remnants of remote antiquity were unknown to Europeans until the year 1750, when they were discovered by some Spaniards; and what is more singular still, they have been visited by few persons since. A London paper, in 1831 contained a letter from a Spanish commandant of an adjoining district which gave an account of his investigations. The ruins according to him, abound in figures of men and animals, in relief, some of colossal size, together with the paintings, and what he conceived to be characters representing sounds, or a phonetic alphabet, of which no traces have been elsewhere found in America.—*Baltimore American.*

From Pensacola.—Letters from Pensacola have been received at Washington, which state that the United States ship Erie and Levant sailed on the 27th ultimo, and the frigate Macedonian on Monday the 28th, on a short cruise. On the following Saturday, the Levant returned with her First Lieutenant and some fifteen or twenty men sick with fever, contracted previous to leaving Pensacola. It was understood that the frigate and the Erie would return from their cruise in a week or ten days, and with the Levant, would proceed at once to cruise to the westward; and that the Ontario, just returned from a cruise to the West Indies, would be sent down the Gulf of Vera Cruz and Tampico. The Warren, which had been sent down the Gulf some five or six weeks previous, returned on the 5th, in a passage of twenty days from Vera Cruz, and was understood to have received orders to proceed to Havana.—The Macedonian returned same day to the anchorage off the Navy Yard, Pensacola. On the 6th instant, Pensacola was considered healthy, no cases of fever having occurred for some days; and the report from Mobile of the day previous, induced those who had been residing in Pensacola, to return to their homes with confidence. There were troops on the 9th, 10th, and 11th of the month.

The Canadas.—The Toronto Examiner of the 13th states "from good authority," that the Governor General has fully resolved, in compliance with his instructions to carry into effect the union of the provinces, without regard to the opinions of any individuals on one side or the other. The Examiner also says "it is currently rumored that Sir George Arthur has sent home his resignation by the Great Western."

The Baltimore Intelligencer says that orders have been received from the government, to put in good order all the houses in that town which have been occupied as barracks, so that they may be delivered up to our country. This looks like returning peace.—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

We learn from a correspondent in France that our Minister, Gen. Cass, was invited to spend a few days with the King and royal family at the Palace of Fontainebleau; and that three young American officers—Messrs. Eastis Turner, and Kearney—who have been sent to France to attend a course of instruction at the cavalry school at Saumur, arrived there at the same time, to witness the military maneuvers at the great camp which has been formed there. They were presented to the King by Gen. Cass and invited to dine with the royal family, and treated with much kindness. The King gave orders that horses should be provided, that they might accompany him to the great review and slant battle which took place. Such attentions ought to be known, as they evince what the King feels to testify his regard towards the Americans, and of which many of our countrymen have been the witnesses at Paris.—*Globe.*

A mule quokette well punished.—A merchant in New York lately paid his addresses to a Miss —, of Brooklyn, to whom he was engaged to be married, & the day for their nuptials to "come off" was appointed. Every thing was ready for the ceremony but the bridegroom, from whom a note was received, coolly stating that he had changed his mind. Bad as was the offence, it was overlooked, and arrangements for the marriage were made a second time, and the gentleman again changed his mind. This was rather more than the brother of the lady would submit to, and he waited on the faithless swain, whom he found at Delmonico's, and, in presence of a large number of fashionables, inflicted upon him a merciless cowhiding. We like this better than prosecuting for a breach of promise.

"FIXED PRINCIPLES."

"PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 24, P. M.

There is but very little news of interest going on in our city to-day; the premium on specie has declined somewhat, and the rates of exchange on your city is generally giving way.—It is a fixed principle with our merchants to suffer protest on notes and drafts from your city whenever payment is demanded in specie or New York funds. Such has been the case within the last two days to a very heavy amount, and on some of the best houses in the city.

The foregoing is extracted from the correspondence of the New York Courier and Enquirer.

So it is a "fixed principle in Philadelphia to refuse payment of debts whenever the legal currency of the county or its equivalent is demanded. Supported by the banks, the debtor requires the creditor to give ten per cent. of his demand, and if he declines, refuses to pay altogether!

Such is Federal Whigery in its head quarters! Such are its "fixed principles!" In reference to the Constitution and laws of the land, this is open defiance and contempt; in references to morality, it is the "stand and deliver," principle of the highway-man.

Yet these men claim to be the special friends of the "Constitution and laws," they are the men who were almost ready to immolate Gen. Jackson, because he would not let them and their Great Bank profit any longer by the use of the public money. To set "the Constitution and laws," at defiance is now openly declared to be their "fixed principles."—*Globe.*

Mexico.—The Doric, from Mexico, at New Orleans, reports the departure of the brig Driscoll, on the 30th ult. from Tampico for New York, with about six hundred thousand dollars in specie. The British packet sailed three or four days previously, with one million and a half. A British frigate was to leave soon after, with two millions. During the period the Doric was in port, two conductors arrived from the interior, bringing in large quantities of specie.

On the night of the third October the French brig Fanny was cast away near Vera Cruz.—M. Lahande, her captain, a lady passenger, and one of the crew were drowned. Three of the leaders of the Federal army, Oiedo, Noguera, and Ugaste, had escaped from prison. The sum of two hundred thousand dollars, constituting the last instalment of the indemnity due to France, had been paid to the French Council at Vera Cruz.

Chinese opium trade.—The value of the opium imported into China 1834, was near \$16,999,000, or one fourth of the annual foreign trade of the empire.

Notice to Foreclose a Mortgage.

WHEREAS the undersigned holds a Mortgage Deed executed to Jefferson Coolidge by one Henry Goding then of Jay in the County of Oxford and State of Maine, dated the fifteenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, of a part of two lots of land situated in the town of Livermore on the West side of the Androscoggin River and numbered one hundred and fifty and one hundred and fifty-one, according to the original plan of said town, to secure the payment of two notes of hand amounting in the whole to the sum of one hundred, twenty dollars and fifty cents, which notes of hand together with the premises are particularly described in said Mortgage deed, which is recorded in the Registry of Deeds for Oxford County Book 36, page 383. The said Mortgage deed and said notes have been duly assigned to the subscriber and the assignment has been duly recorded in said Registry Book 55, page 518, and may be referred to. Said notes of hand being wholly unpaid and the condition of said Mortgage Deed broken, the undersigned, assignee aforesaid, claims to have possession of the mortgaged premises to foreclose the same for breach of the condition of said Mortgage.

GRANVILLE CHILD.

Livermore, November 18, 1839.

WINTER GOODS.

BROADCLOTHS, Cassimeres, Mirettes, &c. &c. can now be had of the subscriber (for ready pay only) very cheap. Call and see.

W. E. GOODNOW.

Norway, Nov. 18, 1839.

Administrator's Sale.

At the homestead farm of the late Ebenezer Rawson in Paris, on the 30th day of November inst., at ten o'clock A. M. unless previously disposed of at private sale, will be sold at public Auction the following personal property contained in the Inventory of said estate, to wit:—One pair of Stags—six Cows—two Bulls—six Yearlings—six Calves—seventy-five Sheep—one Horse—forty tons of Hay, and other articles of personal property.

Also the homestead farm with the buildings thereon, and a tract of land lying on Little Androscoggin River with the buildings thereon. Terms liberal and made known at the time and place of sale. E. G. RAWSON, Admr. Paris, Nov. 21, 1839.

Notice to Foreclose a Mortgage.

BE it known to whom it may concern and public notice is hereby given that I, the subscriber, do claim by deed of Mortgage, dated the fourth day of May, A. D. 1837, and recorded in the Registry of Deeds for the County of Oxford Book 51, page 393, a certain lot of land conveyed to me by Amos H. Russell of Sumner, being lot numbered 15, in the 6th Range of lots in the town of Sumner; and I do further give notice that the conditions of the Mortgage aforesaid have been broken, the said Amos not having paid the interest, and also the two first payments mentioned in said condition, by reason whereof I claim to foreclose the Mortgage aforesaid, and this public notice is given for the purpose of foreclosing the same agreeably to the provisions of the Statute in that case made and provided.

JOHN BRIGGS, Attorney for ZALMAN BRIGGS. Sumner, Nov. 18, 1839.

THRICE WEEKLY AGE.

THE PUBLISHERS OF THE AGE propose to issue a paper three times a week during the next session of the Legislature.

It will contain, in addition to the report of Legislative Debates and Proceedings, the News of the Day, a Synopsis of Congressional proceedings, and the original matter which appears in the Weekly paper. It is intended that the reports of proceedings shall be full accurate, and the sketches of Debates as complete and perfect as any that have been published at Augusta.

The price of the THRICE WEEKLY will be ONE DOLLAR for the session. It will be published on such days as will best accommodate our subscribers on the different mail routes.

Any person procuring six subscribers and forwarding the amount of their subscriptions, shall be entitled to a copy of the paper.

The price of all subscriptions must be paid in advance, or some persons known to us become responsible therefor.

Editors, with whom we exchange, are requested to give the above a few insertions in their papers. Augusta, November, 1839.

TRI-WEEKLY JOURNAL.

SEVERANCE & DORR will publish a paper three times a week during the ensuing session of the Legislature, at One Dollar for the session. It will contain the Legislature proceedings as usual, and the most important of the annual reports and other documents. Also the proceedings of Congress, which at the ensuing session will be of unusual interest.

The extraordinary condition of the financial affairs of the State—the adoption of the Revised Statutes if they shall be completed—the subject of our Northeastern Boundary—the proposition to take the Bank tax from the Schools and use it to pay the State debt—the imposition of a heavy State tax—the provision for a new valuation—the choice of County Officers by the People, and many others subjects which must come before the Legislature, will make it desirable to every citizen to be well informed of the doings of our public servants; and as we almost every year make a sacrifice of individual interest in publishing an extra paper, we must rely upon our friends to aid us in getting a list of subscribers, this year, large enough to pay the cost.

Any person who will procure six subscribers, and send the money in advance, can have the seventh for his compensation.

Payment in all cases required in advance.—This may be equally convenient to subscribers, & save us much trouble and expense in collecting. When convenient, we would thank those holding subscriptions, to forward the names and money, by the 25th of December.

Printers in the State with whom we exchange are requested to give the above a few insertions—or otherwise notice.

Augusta, Nov. 4, 1839.

NOTICE.

THE copartnership heretofore existing between Drs. CORNELIUS HOLLAND & CYRUS H. COOLIDGE, in the practice of Medicine is expired by its own limitation. And, as it becomes important to close the Copartnership business immediately, they respectfully request all persons who are indebted to said firm, to call and settle with either of the firm by note or otherwise. CORNELIUS HOLLAND, CYRUS H. COOLIDGE. Canton, Nov. 26th, 1839.

BUFFALO ROBES.

A prime lot just received and for sale by the subscriber, also Fur Collars, Neck Ties, Muffs, Winter Fur Gloves, &c. &c. W. E. GOODNOW, Norway, Village, Nov. 18, 1839.

THE subscriber hereby gives public notice to all concerned that he has been duly appointed and taken upon himself the trust of Administrator with the Will annexed on the Estate of

JACOB STROUT.

late of Canton, in the county of Oxford, deceased, by giving bond as the law directs—He therefore requests all persons who are indebted to the said deceased estate to make immediate payment; and those who have any demands thereon, to exhibit the same to CORNELIUS HOLLAND, Administrator, Oct. 16th, 1839.

Guardian Sale.

BY virtue of License from the Probate Court of the County of Oxford I shall sell at Public Auction on Monday, the second day of December next, at 10 o'clock A. M. unless disposed of previously at private sale, all the interest which James S. Heath and Helina Ann Heath, minor children of Abraham Heath, Jr. late of Sumner, deceased, have in and to the farm and real Estate of their late Father situate in Sumner, consisting of two hundred and fifty acres, or thereabouts, subject to the widow's right of dower therein. Sale on the premises. Terms made known at the time and place of sale. Dated at Sumner, Nov. 8, 1839.

ISAAC HEATH, Guardian of said minors.

Almanacs for 1840.

JUST received and for sale by the dozen or single lot at the Oxford Bookstore, by W. E. GOODNOW. November 18, 1839.

